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INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE
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RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 2219
RUEHUM/AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR 0019
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/OSD WASHDC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0658
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE 2624
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 2003
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO BRUSSELS BE
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RUEHLMC/MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORP
RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL

C O N F I D E N T I A L BISHKEK 000894

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DEPT FOR SCA/CEN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/10/2017

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [KG](#)

SUBJECT: INTERIM RESPONSE DELIVERED TO KYRGYZ-PROPOSED
CHANGES TO MANAS AIR BASE PROTOCOL

REF: A. STATE 93188

[1](#)B. BISHKEK 816

Classified By: CDA Lee Litzenberger, Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (C) Charge delivered Ref A response to Kyrgyz-proposed changes to the Manas Air Base Protocol to Deputy Foreign Minister Sarbayev on July 10. Charge noted that this was an interim response, and he expected to receive additional information later.

[1](#)2. (C) Sarbayev thanked Charge for the response and read the Note carefully. He asked for clarification regarding the intention of the U.S. side to hold discussions and asked when such discussions could begin. Charge confirmed that the U.S. was willing to discuss issues related to the implementation of the existing Protocol, but the concerned U.S. agencies had not yet coordinated a timeframe for such discussions. Charge mentioned that the U.S.-Kyrgyz joint base commission was one possible mechanism for such discussions, and Sarbayev acknowledged this possibility.

[1](#)3. (C) Sarbayev said that he would share the response with Deputy Minister of Defense Oruzbayev, the chair of the Kyrgyz government's inter-agency committee on Manas Air Base. Sarbayev again thanked Charge and said that the response was a "step forward."

[1](#)4. (C) COMMENT: Sarbayev was visibly pleased to receive the U.S. response, and welcomed the U.S. willingness to discuss base-related issues. He was clearly eager to know our thinking on next steps to enable face-to-face discussions to begin between the two sides.
LITZENBERGER